## IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF MISSISSIPPI EASTERN DIVISION

CAROL L. VAUGHN

**PLAINTIFF** 

VERSUS CIVIL ACTION NO: 1:09CV247-A-D

**WOODFOREST BANK** 

**DEFENDANT** 

# DEFENDANT'S MOTION IN LIMINE TO PROHIBIT PLAINTIFF'S COUNSEL'S EMOTIONAL OUTBURSTS

**COMES NOW** Defendant Woodforest Bank ("Woodforest" or "Defendant"), by and through its counsel, and files its Motion *in Limine* to Prohibit Plaintiff's Counsel's Emotional Outbursts. Defendant respectfully requests that the Court instruct Plaintiff's counsel not to cry or show any such similar emotions in *voir dire*, opening statements, closing statements or at any other point in the trial. In support, Defendant states as follows:

- 1. In previous trials, Plaintiff's counsel has engaged in highly emotional *voir dire*, opening statements and closing statements including prolific use of tearful hyperbole. Belief in one's client is one thing; however, excessive courtroom theatrics are quite another.
  - 2. Such actions would only serve to inflame the biases or prejudices of the jury.
- 3. Such actions could mislead and confuse the jury, while at the same time offer nothing to the actual proof entered into evidence at the trial.
- 4. Should the Plaintiff delve into these matters at trial, it would be highly improper and prejudicial to Woodforest pursuant to Federal Rule of Evidence 403.
- 5. There is no other way this problem can be properly handled at the trial of this cause and in all probability any attempt to raise any of the above matters would result in mistrial.

6. Considering the nature of this Motion, Defendant requests the Court waive the requirement that a separate memorandum in support be submitted herewith.

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, Defendant moves this Court for an Order instructing Plaintiff's counsel not to cry or show any such similar emotions in *voir dire*, opening statements, closing statements or at any other point in the trial.

Respectfully submitted, this the 18<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2011.

#### WOODFOREST NATIONAL BANK

BY: <u>s/ Carlyle C. White</u>
PAULA GRAVES ARDELEAN (MSB# 4975)
CARLYLE C. WHITE (MSB # 103051)
ITS ATTORNEYS

#### OF COUNSEL:

BUTLER, SNOW, O'MARA, STEVENS & CANNADA, PLLC
1020 Highland Colony Parkway, Suite 1400
Ridgeland, MS 39157
Post Office Box 6010
Ridgeland, MS 39158-6010
(P) (601) 985-4537
(F) (601) 985-4500
(E) paula.ardelean@butlersnow.com
(E) carlyle.white@butlersnow.com

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I, Carlyle C. White, hereby certify that on this day I caused the foregoing to be electronically filed with the Clerk of the Court using the ECF system which sent notification of such filing to all registered attorneys:

Jim Waide, Esquire Ron L. Woodruff, Esquire Waide & Associates, P.A. Attorneys At Law Post Office Box 1357 Tupelo, MS 38802 Telephone: 662/842-7324

Facsimile: 662/842-8056 Email: <u>jwaide@waidelaw.com</u> Email: RLW@waidelaw.com

ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF

THIS the 18<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2011.

s/ Carlyle C. White
CARLYLE C. WHITE

Jackson 5913619v1